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he organization was not providing proper guidance,
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for the investigation of Do It Now came from a re-
vember that Reed had tried to pay a $1500 deposit
ts Arena for a benefit. The Sports Arena policy re-
deposit in front for any non-commercial venture
cilities. A routine check by the Sports Arena to see
dation had taken out a Social Service permit proved
his aroused the agency's curiousity. This led to the
and the revocation.
Now Foundation spokesman told Open City that
ation had no comment on the case, but would at-
mply with the Social Service Department regula-
permit.
no question that both groups have contributed to
ng of the city. The Diggers provided food and shel-
sands of people who otherwise would have had
Do It Now Foundation's anti-speed campaign with
as Grace Slick of the Jefferson Airplane, may or
reducing the number of people who shoot speed.
erious attempt to help mitigate a serious problem.
k of the number of volunteers in the program, like
Diggers, the Free Clinic and other such organiz-
valuable.
er management of the books, of the administration
izations is also invaluable so that they can continue
ob of helping people. That's why they're there.

Mrs. Wright Resigns

by ROGERT IGRIEGA

Mrs. Margaret Wright, one of the most widely-known militant spokesmen in the South Los Angeles black community, announced last week she was resigning as Chairman of the United Parents Council "because of the threats that have been made on my life."

In a statement released to the press Mrs. Wright said the threats started "after the Black Alternative announced its opposition to the Brotherhood Crusade." The Black Alternative is a coalition of groups, including the Parents Council, the Black Students Alliance, SNCC, and the Malcolm X Foundation, that recently pulled out of the Los Angeles Black Congress. The Brotherhood Crusade is a Black Congress fund-raising campaign which expects to get $3 million from the Federal government, to be spent on various community projects.

Speaking for the Black Alternative at the time of the split, Mrs. Wright publicly denounced the leadership of the Black Congress and the Brotherhood Crusade for misappropriating funds and for failing to represent the people of the black community.

Although Mrs. Wright says she did not recognize the voices making the telephone threats, other persons in the black community have ascribed them to Ron Karenga's US organization, a member of the Black Congress. "I wasn't too concerned," says Mrs. Wright, "until I received the threatening phone call the same day the students were killed at UCLA." [On Jan. 17 UCLA students Bunchy Carter and John Huggins, both Deputy Ministers of the Black Panther Party, were shot down on the university campus. According to the Panthers, eyewitnesses identified four members of US as the assassins, and two members of US are presently in jail on murder charges].

About four hours after the murders, Mrs. Wright says her phone rang and a voice said, "You heard what happened at UCLA? Well you're next if you don't keep quiet." So far, she says, she has received four such threatening calls.

"I didn't pay too much attention - you know, cranks take advantage of things - but some UPC mothers were getting nervous and talking about carrying weapons and all, and you know we're not that kind of group. I even asked them not to come around the office, because someone might throw a bottle or something in there, and if anything happened to any of my parents I'd never forgive myself.

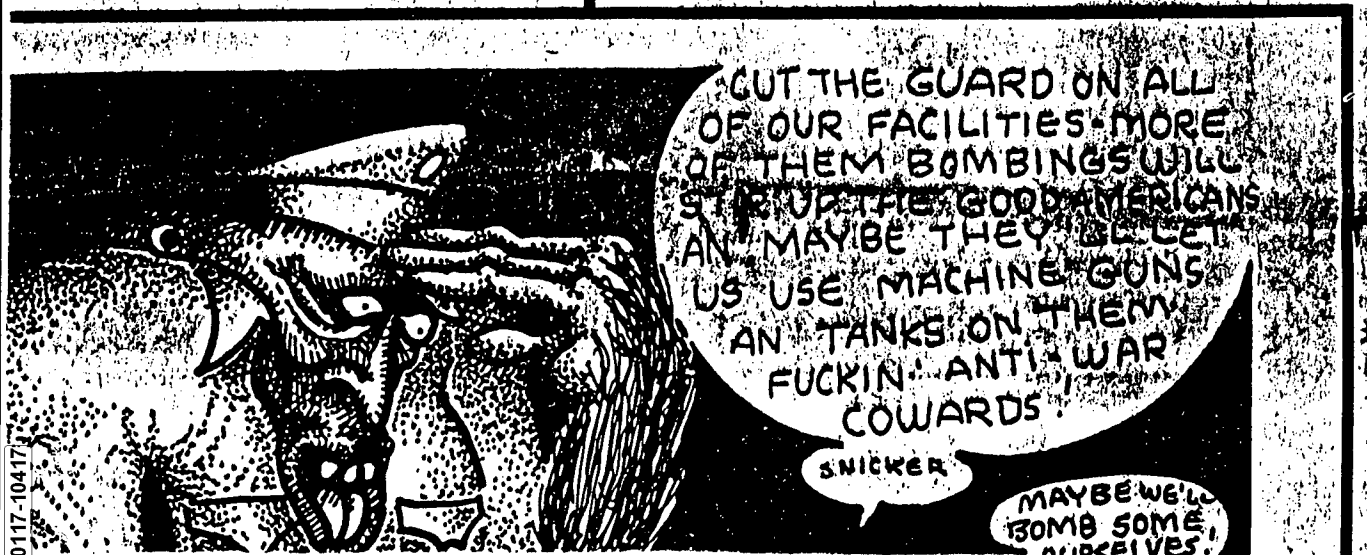
"I'm not worried about the threats too much - it's my parents I'm worried about. I don't want any innocent victims. Because the threats are for me and not for members of UPC, I think it would be safer for the members after it is known I have resigned."

In her public statement Mrs. Wright said "The Black Community must wake up before it is too late. Organizations are engaged in a civil war and if the wrong ones win the community will be stuck with a black Mafia. The people must become involved and stop this struggle for money and power. The people must make leaders accountable or get rid of them. Black oppressors and opportunists will be harder to get rid of than white ones."

We asked Mrs. Wright who "the wrong ones" are - who is the "black Mafia?"

"That's what the Black Congress is fast becoming," she said, "I blame it partly on the whites, throwing coins into the black community for people to fight over and carry on." She said leadership in the black community was presently paralyzed, and that the black people would have to generate new leaders from among themselves. "This is where power belongs, to the people. Organizations forget what they were organized for after a while, and they get into these ego bags. The people have to be apprised of what's going on; there has to be some new leadership in Los Angeles; and it has to come from the people."

During the nationwide wave of riots following the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., the Black Congress held a series of emergency meetings with the Los Angeles police. Ron Karenga of US is credited with playing a key role in these meetings; he coined the phrase "operational unity." At the same time he was holding his own secretmeetingswith police chief Thomas Reddin. Several weeks later he was called to Sacramento for a confidential meeting with Gov. Reagan. The


CUT THE GUARD ON ALL OF OUR FACILITIES-MORE OF THEM BOMBINGS WILL STIR UP THE GOOD AMERICANS AN' MAYBE THEY'LL LET US USE MACHINE GUNS AN' TANKS ON THEM FUCKIN' ANTI-WAR COWARDS!
SNICKER
MAYBE WE'LL BOMB SOME

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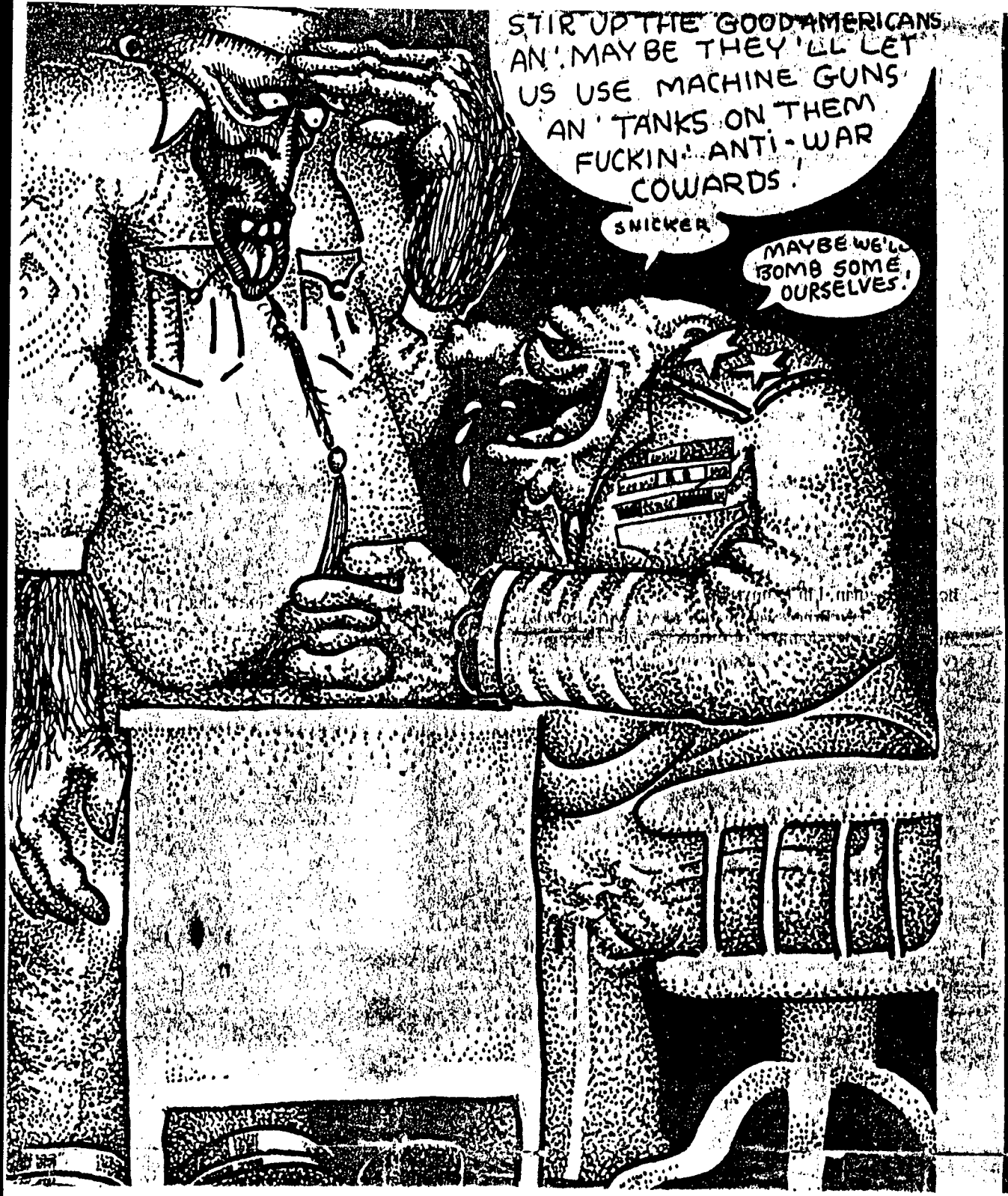
STIR UP THE GOOD AMERICANS AN' MAYBE THEY'LL LET US USE MACHINE GUNS AN' TANKS ON THEM FUCKIN' ANTI-WAR COWARDS.
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She laughed.

"That's the biggest lie you ever heard. They were in meetings all the time, how could they do anything about trouble?" She said many other cities had stayed quiet without any such meetings. "Just nobody wanted to do anything, that's all."

[The L.A. Times reported at the time that the principal way the Black Congress avoided trouble was to point out what the police were doing that made the people nervous. As a result, Chief Reddin ordered shotguns removed from the windows of patrol cars, had extra police removed from the cars, ordered a sniper squad off the roof of the 77th Street police station, and a truckload of police machine guns taken out of the ghetto.]

The police hardware wasn't out of sight permanently. At the Watts summer festival in August police fired into a crowd, killing three and wounding forty. An anti-personnel helicopter was used in this action, and the next night this reporter saw a shotgun squad posted on the sidewalk in front of the 103rd Street police substation.

The following weekend Stokely Carmichael gave a lecture on guerrilla warfare at a Black Panther rally at Will Rogers Park on 103rd Street. When the Black Congress heard Stokely was coming, said Mrs. Wright, they announced that "nobody can come into the black community without clearing it through them. Whoever heard of Stokely Carmichael being an outsider in a black community! It's just a case of another oppressor trying to control black people instead of going against their enemies. A black oppressor is no better than a white oppressor."

Hakim Jamal of the Malcolm X Foundation, now a member of the Black Alternative, spoke at that Panther Rally. Mrs. Wright also spoke, and Shermont Banks, how Deputy Chairman of the Panthers, ceremonially drafted her as Honorary Minister of Education of the Panther Party.

After the murders at UCLA the Panthers announced at a press conference that they had given the names of the four suspected US assassins to the police. They also accused US of working as an agent of the police. The Panthers have been criticized for this by some blacks, and we asked Mrs. Wright her